

REMARKS

Applicant has amended Claim 16 by incorporating therein the limitations of Claim 41. Claim 41 has been cancelled.

Applicant has also added new Claims 59-75. Claims 59, 61, 63 and 65 conform to Claims 33, 34, 35 and 53, respectively, but depend from Claim 25 instead of from Claim 16.

Claims 60, 62, 64 and 66 conform to Claims 33, 34, 35 and 53, respectively, but depend from Claim 26 instead of from Claim 16.

Claims 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75 conform to Claim 53, but depend from Claims 33, 34, 35, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64, respectively, instead of from Claim 16. No new matter is introduced through new Claims 59-75.

Applicant's above-identified patent application is based on and claims the benefit of the filing date of PCT/GB2003/004855, which in turn is based on and claims the benefit of the filing date of U.K. Patent Application No. 0226726.8. U.K. Patent Application No. 0226726.8 was filed on November 15, 2002.

Applicant's Claims 16, 25-26, 33-39, and 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over Ritchie, U.S. Patent Application 2004/0048753, in view of Cooper in light of evidence provided by Twigg. Ritchie was filed on September 10, 2002.

Applicant is submitting herewith Applicant's Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, which swears behind the filing date of Ritchie.

Applicant is also submitting herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant also requests confirmation by the Examiner that the references listed in a previous Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 26, 2008 were considered by the Examiner.

In view of the above amendment and Declaration of Applicant under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, Applicant respectfully submits that her Claims 16, 25-26, 33-39, 53 and 59-75 are in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance of such claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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